

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed March 15, 2006, has been carefully considered. The present Amendment is intended to be a complete response thereto and to place the case in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-7, 9-28, 31-38, 40-43, and 45-49 are pending. Claims 8, 29-30, 39, 44, and 50-52 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 9, 10, 13, 31, and 40 have been amended. Independent claim 1 has been amended to include all the limitations of original claim 8. Independent claim 31 has been amended to include all the limitations of original claim 39. Independent claim 40 has been amended to include all the limitations of original claim 44. Claims 9 and 13 have been amended to depend on claim 1 instead of cancelled claim 8. Claim 10 have been amended to remove redundancy due to the amendment to claim 1.

THE CLAIMS ARE NOT ANTICIPATED

Claims 1, 2, 7, 31, 35, 36, 40, 41, 43, and 48 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Levin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,303,389). The rejection is moot because presently amended claims 1, 31, and 40 includes all the limitations of original claims 8, 39 and 44 which are not included in the rejection. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner indication claims 3-6, 8-28, 34, 39, 42, 44-47, and 49 as being allowable if rewritten in independent forms. Current claims 1, 31, and 40 includes all the limitations of claims 8, 29, and 44, respectively, and are effectively claims 8, 29,

and 44 rewritten in independent forms. All other claims now depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 1, 31, or 41. Therefore, all claims are now allowable.

CONCLUSION

In the event that there are any questions relating to this Amendment or to the application in general, it would be appreciated if the examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney concerning such questions so that the prosecution of this application may be expedited.

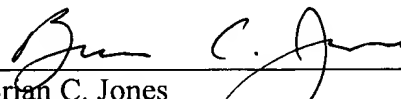
Please charge any shortage or credit any overpayment of fees to BLANK ROME LLP, Deposit Account No. 23-2185 (114122-00135). In the event that a petition for an extension of time is required to be submitted herewith and in the event that a separate petition does not accompany this response, applicant hereby petitions under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) for an extension of time for as many months as are required to render this submission timely.

Any fees due are authorized above.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 9-15-2006

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